

**THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE PRIORITIES COMMITTEE
OF THE CITY OF GREATER SUDBURY**

**T.M. Davies Community Centre
325 Anderson Drive, Lively**

**Wednesday, May 2, 2007
Commencement: 6:09 p.m.**

Chair

COUNCILLOR GASPARINI, IN THE CHAIR

Present

Councillors Cimino; Barbeau; Berthiaume; Dutrisac; Dupuis; Rivest; Thompson; Craig (D8:00pm); Landry-Altman; Mayor Rodriguez

City Officials

D. Nadorozny, Acting Chief Administrative Officer; C. Matheson, General Manager of Community Development; G. Clausen, Acting General Manager of Infrastructure; D. Bergeron, Acting CFO/Treasurer; T. Beadman, Chief of Emergency Services; D. Donaldson, Fire Chief; B. Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation; B. Sedgwick, Roads Engineer; I. Wood, Business Development Officer; C. Gore, Manager of Community Partnerships; G. Lamothe, Manager of Communications & French Language Service; R. Ahola, Manager of Municipal Arenas & Community Centres; A. Haché, City Clerk; CJ Caporale, Council Secretary

News Media

Sudbury Star; Channel 10 News

Declarations of
Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

TOUR OF COMMUNITY

Anderson Farm
Museum & Penguin
Automated Systems

Prior to the meeting the Members of the Priorities Committee participated in a tour of the Anderson Farm Museum, which is situated on a fourteen acre site. The Anderson family were Finnish immigrants who came to Canada at the turn of the century and developed the Farm into a 366 acre dairy.

The Members of the Committee also toured Penguin Automated Systems Inc. Mr. Greg Baiden, Director, School of Engineering, Laurentian University and Chairman and Chief Technology Officer, Penguin ASI guided the tour and who is dedicated to the creation of "solutions to problems using advanced technologies such as robotics and software systems for simulation, monitoring and control in many application areas such as mining, construction, underwater, aerial, institutional and space".

PART I

6:00 P.M. TO 8:30 P.M.

Opening Remarks

Councillor Gasparini welcomed the eighty-seven (87) people in attendance to the Priorities Committee meeting.

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 4 VON Canada

Ms. Deborah Mattson, Communications/Volunteer Coordinator, VON Canada provided the history of the VON and stated that they are a not-for-profit, national health care organization and registered charity offering a wide range of community health care solutions. Their programs include adult day care, foot clinic, meals on wheels, home health care, etc. She advised that VON Branches across Canada are celebrating 110 years of service in the community during the VON Week from May 12, 2007 to May 19, 2007.

Ms. Mattson advised that the VON Greater Sudbury site is hosting their 2nd Annual Walk-Run-Roll on Saturday, May 12, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. at Market Square. Walk participants will follow a "Passport to Downtown" route. Walking along at their own pace, participants are encouraged to visit designated merchants where they will receive a VON Healthy Living Fact. The more facts participants collect, the more chances they have to win prizes donated by downtown merchants.

She also advised that the Walk-Run-Roll will kick-off with a funding announcement from MPP Rick Bartolucci and the Trillium Foundation.

Item 5 Walden CAN Update

Mr. Richard Bois, Co-Chair of the Walden CAN provided a brief outline of the CAN's history. He indicated that they have developed a website, a quarterly newsletter and a Walden CAN monthly column in the Sudbury Star. Their next project is to develop and produce a Walden Community Directory.

Mr. Bois provided a list of key projects that were implemented in 2006 and a brief background of each:

- Health Services Task Force
- Ski Hill Committee
- Heritage Committee to Review the Anderson Farm Museum
- Environmental Committee

He also provided several Requests for Action from the residents of Walden:

Item 5
Walden CAN Update
(continued)

- Safety & security and Police services in Walden – improved security system, roving security patrols, security cameras, COPs Program
- True status of Mental Health Services at Walden Help Centre - they want to ensure that the residents have access to mental health services in Walden
- Letters of Support to the Hiring of Nurse Practitioners - would like to show young family physicians and medicine residents that Walden is a growing, vibrant, welcoming and healthy community and is worth considering as a place to live and work
- Possible Closure of Lively District Secondary School - that City Council advocate adoption of the concept of the Constellation City Report to strengthen and develop City of Greater Sudbury as a “Community of Communities”
- Impact of MTO projects “Four-Laning of Southwest By-Pass”
- Establishing a Network of CGS CANs - Association of CANs (ACAN)

Mr. Bois concluded by stating that if the community loses medical services and the school, it is the “heart and soul of the community” that will be jeopardized. He stated that some of the Requests for Action can be dealt with directly by the CAN’s Steering/Executive Committee, some require partnerships with community groups/service clubs or businesses, the City of Greater Sudbury staff or Greater Sudbury Police Services, some require advocacy of the Ward Councillor, and some require partnerships with City of Greater Sudbury Council.

Item 6
Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club Update

Ms. Brenda Salo, President of the Beaver Lake Sports & Cultural Club stated that there were two issues the community of Beaver Lake would like Council to consider.

She advised that the Welcome Centre in Beaver Lake has been closed because the “cost to maintain it” was too high. She indicated that the Centre receives approximately 200 visitors on a daily basis during the peak summer months and 40-50 stops daily during the off months. It is the first municipal facility in the City of Greater Sudbury when travelling from west to east. The community has kept this facility clean and appealing to visitors for the past two years. She requested, on behalf of the community, that the Centre be expanded and remain open, be kept clean in order to be a representative of the area. She also heard that the Walden sign is to come off the top of the hill and was seeking verification.

Item 6
Beaver Lake Sports
& Cultural Club
Update
(continued)

Ms. Salo indicated that the second issue was the lack of high speed internet access through Bell Sympatico. She advised that a petition has been signed by 200 residents requesting high speed internet which was forwarded to Bell Sympatico. Bell Canada has indicated that they will not be making any improvements to the telephone system in the near future.

She concluded by requesting Council's support regarding these issues and to provide the necessary endorsement to Bell Sympatico to upgrade the present telephone system.

Councillor Barbeau advised that the Welcome Centre will not be closed and that staff will ensure it is kept cleaned. He also advised that the Welcome signs are being reviewed and new signs will be erected.

Mr. Nadorozny advised that the change of status of the Welcome Centre was due to the fact that the bulk of the people stopping were only utilizing the washrooms. From a tourism aspect, this was not the best use of resources, but Parks agreed to keep it running. He also advised that a report and presentation will be made to Council in the near future regarding community signage. He stated that the Ministry of Transportation will not allow new signs to be erected on provincial highways until the old signs are removed.

Councillor Barbeau stated that he will introduce a motion, in support of high speed internet in the Walden area, at a future date.

Item 7
Fairbank Lake Camp
Owners Association

Mr. Brian Burton, President of the Fairbank Lake Camp Owners Association provided a brief history. He advised that they have approximately 160 paid members of the 240 seasonal and permanent residents on the lake. He also advised that the Association was instrumental in developing the secondary plan for the lake which has now been incorporated into the Official Plan.

He outlined several activities the Association is involved in such as neighbourhood watch, water testing, lake stewardship, etc.

Mr. Burton advised that there are approximately fifty permanent residents and their property is zoned seasonal. He indicated that regardless of the zoning, they are currently paying the same residential mill rate as all other homes within the City of Greater Sudbury and would like to see a different mill rate for rural versus urban. He stated that they only receive two main services, garbage and blue box collection and road maintenance.

The residents are requesting that their garbage be picked up on Mondays between the May long weekend and Thanksgiving instead of Tuesdays to accommodate the cottagers during the summer

Item 7
Fairbank Lake Camp
Owners Association
(continued)

months. He indicated that illegal dumping is a problem and that tipping fees should be reviewed and that there should be improvements in relaying information to the public.

Mr. Burton stated that when Fairbanks Lake was part of Walden, large sections of roads were resurfaced annually, but since amalgamation, resurfacing has been minimal. He advised that their road system is in bad shape. The 2007 road plan includes resurfacing of 1.6 km and it will take nineteen years to complete the 21 km of road. He also advised that the roads require an annual resurfacing program for the next four years of approximately 8 km per year to play catch up in road maintenance. He also indicated that resurfacing is what is required, not filling in potholes, as the patch is quickly removed by the big trucks that use the road. He also stated that the gravel roads require more gravel for the grader to work with.

He indicated that snow ploughing after 8 cm has fallen is not acceptable. They pay the same mill rate so they expect the same service.

Mr. Falcioni indicated that if the City receives enhanced funding from the Province, it is their intention to increase maintenance.

Councillor Dupuis advised that the Solid Waste Advisory Panel will be recommending that the suggested changes be made for garbage pick-up. He also advised that illegal dumping due to the cost of tipping fees is an issue that is being addressed.

Panache Lake Road
Women's Institute -
Plastic Bags

Ms. Jillian Catto, member of the Plastic Bag Committee, stated that their Committee has been working hard for several years educating and advocating the use of cloth bags versus plastic bags. She provided various statistics regarding the use of plastic bags and stated that the average Canadian uses about 145 plastic bags per year. She stated that bans have been in effect or are being "phased in" in Australia, Bangladesh, Bombay, France, India, Ireland, as well as several American cities. She also stated that Leaf Rapids, Manitoba has banned plastic bags.

Ms. Catto advised that discussions are being held in Sault Ste. Marie and North Bay about eliminating plastic bags and is asking Council to work towards the same goal.

Cloth bags were distributed at the meeting.

Walden Cross Country
Fitness Club Update

Mr. Jeff Sewell, Past President and member of the Walden Cross Country Fitness Club provided an electronic presentation. He stated that the Club was requesting financial support of \$30,000 to \$35,000 from the City to enhance their chalet from 1,000 sq.ft. to 2,000-2,500 sq.ft. This endeavour is estimated to cost the Club approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000. They are also asking Council to help meet the Club's liability insurance requirements year round.

He provided a brief history of the Club and their fundraising methods. He stated that they received capital funding of \$400,000 from the Millennium Bureau, Trillium Foundation, NOHFC, City of Greater Sudbury, service clubs, etc. This funding helped with the lighting for night skiing, chalet refurbishment, equipment, trail development, parking lot upgrades, etc.

Mr., Sewell provided a list of program achievements accomplished since 2000 and stated that they would like to expand their program into the non-winter months by offering summer time fitness and training, cross country running events, and mountain biking events.

He concluded by stating that the this endeavour would provide health benefits for all ages, improve the quality of life in the rural areas, and that the Walden Cross Country Fitness Club is self-sustaining and would not require future additional operating support from the City.

Proceed Past
8:30 p.m.

2007-23 Cimino: THAT we proceed past the hour of 8:30 p.m.

CARRIED BY 2/3 MAJORITY

COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS

Item 10
Spanish River Road
Bridge Project Update

Mr. Bob Falcioni, Director of Roads & Transportation introduced Mr. Bruce Sedgwick, Roads Engineer who provided an electronic presentation. He explained that the bridge was constructed in 1970, spans 13 m across an original 1930's era concrete/steel bridge with a current load limit of 19 tonnes. He stated that there are less than 150 vehicles per day that use the bridge, and the Spanish River Road is occasionally used as a detour when Highway 17 is closed.

Mr. Sedgwick stated that the bridge is deteriorating and crumbling and that there is a concern for safety. He provided a brief outline on how the bridge would be replaced and stated that it would be completed within an eight week period.

He provided a list of the 2007 Capital Roads Program and culvert replacements which are to be done in the Walden area.

COMMUNITY INPUT

Mr. Garth Munch

Mr. Munch asked how much money is wasted on resurfacing a road (RR 55) that is just a big driveway? The City is only putting a bandage on the problem by only filling in potholes. He advised that the trees and flowers that are planted along the medians are not being maintained and people are parking their vehicles on the medians.

He stated that the compost available in the landfills is just wood chips, at a cost of \$20.00 per tonne. This is not compost material. He advised that Toronto provides compost at no charge because they want people to compost.

He also suggested that to alleviate illegal dumping of tires, charge a deposit fee when purchasing tires and provide a credit when the tires are brought to the landfill sites. He sent a letter to Minister Bartolucci advising that people are dumping tires along Highway 144 and nothing has been done.

Councillor Dupuis advised that up to eight passenger/light truck tires will be exempt from tipping fees during the week of May 7-12, 2007.

Ms. Sally Dingwall

Ms. Dingwall advised that she has been a resident of Walden for many years and has always promoted fitness. She was happy when the walking trails were established in her community, but is discouraged to see motorized vehicles utilizing these trails. She advised that there are signs posted prohibiting motorized vehicles from using the trails, but this does not seem to stop them.

Mr. Mario Blasutti

Mr. Blasutti advised that his pet peeve is seeing a City truck with two crew members repairing a pothole and not "tamping down" the material afterward. He indicated that if the material is not properly prepared, it is a waste of money. The first time a heavy vehicle drives over this, the material breaks up and is gone.

Ms. Lynn McKay

Ms. McKay advised that the entrance to the footpath between Phillip Street and Woodland Avenue, Lively, is being closed, and requested that the second entrance behind her house, also be closed.

Councillor Barbeau advised that both entrances are being closed and it will be the responsibility of the residents to move their fences onto the property lines. He also advised that he will meet with Ms. McKay to discuss further issues.

Closing Remarks

Councillor Gasparini expressed her appreciation to those who attended and advised that the Members of Council are in partnership with the communities in making the right decisions. She advised that Council will take their comments under advisement.

Adjournment

RECOMMENDATION 2007-24: Moved by Councillor Cimino:

THAT this meeting does now adjourn. Time: 8:48 p.m.

CARRIED

Councillor J. Gasparini, Chair

Angie Haché, City Clerk