

TOWNSHIP OF RAMARA

Monday, December 4, 2000

Inaugural meeting for the month of December for the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Ramara was held in the Council Chambers with the following members and staff in attendance:

Mayor	Tom Garry
Deputy Mayor	Dan McMillan
Councillor	Marilyn Brooks
Councillor	Basil Clarke
Councillor	Nadir Jamal
Councillor	John O'Donnell
Councillor	Neal Snutch
CAO/Clerk	Richard P. Bates
Treasurer	Margaret Black
Fire Chief	Ted Conway
Tax Collector	Anne Corrigan
Deputy Fire Chief	Al Duncan
Chief Building Official	Gar Payne
Works Superintendent	Bill Newman
Assistant to the CAO/Clerk	Janice McKinnon
Council/Committee Secretary	Jennifer Shave

OPENING OF THE MEETING

Richard P. Bates, CAO/Clerk opened the meeting at 11:00 am and introduced the members of the 2000 - 2003 Council.

OPENING PRAYER

Father Garnet Sauve bestowed a prayer to Council on the occasion of their inaugural.

DECLARATION OF OFFICE & OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Justice L.T. Montgomery swore Dr. Garry into the Office of Mayor and presented the Mayor's Chain of Office to his Worship.

Justice L.T. Montgomery swore Daniel J. McMillan into the Office of Deputy Mayor.

Justice L.T. Montgomery swore Marilyn Brooks, Nadir Jamal, Basil Clarke, John O'Donnell, Neal Snutch into the Office of Councillor.

DEDICATORY ADDRESS

Reverend Robert Hockley addressed Council on the occasion of their inauguration.

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

Mayor Garry made his inaugural address as Mayor. Mayor Garry stated priorities for his upcoming three year term. These include continuing with the Student Mayor Program, more attention given to the environment, sanitary sewers for Brechin and adopting and approval of a new Official Plan and Zoning Bylaw.

REMARKS & INTRODUCTION OF DIGNITARIES

Paul DeVillers, MP , Garfield Dunlop, MPP, Mayor Ron Stevens of the City of Orillia, Councillor Ruth Fountain of Township of Oro-Medonte, Mayor Phil Sled of Severn Township, all expressed best wishes from their municipalities and good luck for the next three years.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUESTS

Mayor Garry introduced special guests in attendance including Inspector Jim Dixon, Orillia OPP and Diane Bell, English Public School Board Trustee, Rex Meadley and Charlie Tatham of C.C. Tatham & Associates.

PRESENTATION BY COUNCILLOR NADIR JAMAL

Councillor Nadir Jamal presented Mayor Tom Garry with a Coat of Arms from Brechin Scotland, after meeting residents from Brechin Scotland while touring the Brechin area this past summer.

BUSINESS REQUIRING THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NUMBER.

MOVED BY: CLARKE


THAT we meet as Committee of the Whole on December 11, 2000;
AND THAT we meet as Council on December 18, 2000.

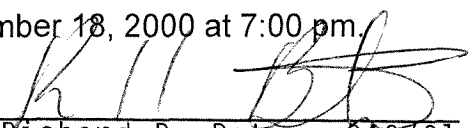
SECONDED BY: O'DONNELL

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

THAT we do now adjourn at 12:00 noon until December 18, 2000 at 7:00 pm.


Thomas V. Garry, Mayor


Richard P. Bates, CAO/Clerk

INAUGURAL SPEECH

MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2000

THE PAST THREE YEARS HAS PRODUCED TREMENDOUS STRIDES BY THIS COMMUNITY TO EXPAND THE SERVICES WE DELIVER, INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE ORGANIZATION AND REDUCE TAXES TO THOSE WHOM WE SERVE.

I WILL CONTINUE TO BUILD ON THE FOUNDATION THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL HAS ESTABLISHED, AND CONTINUE TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL, SO THAT ALL OUR ENERGY IS DIRECTED TO BUILDING A BETTER RAMARA.

LAST COUNCIL MADE US FEEL GOOD ABOUT OURSELVES BY:

PROVIDING A STRATEGIC PLAN - A VISION FOR THE YEAR 2020,
PROVIDING EXCEPTIONAL ENTRANCE SIGNS TO THE TOWNSHIP,
PROVIDING MANY MORE KILOMETRES OF PAVED ROAD
AND PROVIDING A VISUALLY STRIKING LIBRARY AND RECREATION CENTRE, PARTICULARLY FOR OUR YOUTH. THIS LIBRARY FACILITY WILL GIVE OUR RESIDENTS ACCESS TO THE WORLD BY THE INTERNET.

THE NEXT THREE YEARS WILL SEE US ADVANCE IN THREE AREAS:

- 1) CONTINUE TO TAKE OUR GOVERNMENT TO THE PEOPLE WITH:
OUR SUCCESSFUL 'STUDENT MAYOR PROGRAM';
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETINGS BEING HELD THROUGHOUT THE
TOWNSHIP IN VARIOUS COMMUNITY CENTRES;
CONTINUED OPENNESS IN OUR COUNCIL MEETINGS;
AND, THE INTRODUCTION OF OUR AGENDAS AND MINUTES ON
THE INTERNET SO THAT OUR RESIDENTS CAN REMAIN IN TOUCH WITH
WHAT THEIR ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES ARE DOING.

- 2) START THE MILLENNIUM WITH COUNCIL TURNING ITS ATTENTION TO THE
ENVIRONMENT. THE QUALITY OF THE WATER IN OUR LAKES WAS
CLEARLY IDENTIFIED IN OUR STRATEGIC PLAN AS A PRIORITY. THE
HEALTH AND SAFETY OF OUR RESIDENTS, OUR LARGE SEASONAL
POPULATION AND OUR TOURIST INDUSTRY IS DEPENDENT ON WATER
QUALITY. I REALIZE THAT THIS REQUIRES A COMBINED EFFORT BY ALL
MUNICIPALITIES THAT BORDER THE LAKES, BUT RAMARA WILL DO ITS
PART BY PROVIDING:
SANITARY SEWERS FOR BRECHIN AND BRECHIN BEACH.
SEPTIC INSPECTION ON ALL EXISTING LAKE FRONT SYSTEMS TO ENSURE
COMPLIANCE.

IMPROVED STORM DRAINAGE ALONG ALL LAKESHORE ROADS,
IMPOSING TOUGHER STANDARDS FOR CONVERTING SEASONAL
DWELLINGS TO PERMANENT, AND FINALLY, CONTINUING WITH OUR
CURRENT PROGRAM OF UPGRADING OUR WATER AND WASTE WATER
FACILITIES ALL NINE OF WHICH ARE IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH MINISTRY
REGULATIONS.

- 3) CONTINUE OUR PLANNING EFFORTS WITH THIS NEW TERM OF COUNCIL
ADOPTING AND APPROVING OF A NEW OFFICIAL PLAN AND ZONING
BYLAW WHICH WILL LEAD TO:

NEW COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT ALONG THE RAMA ROAD/HIGHWAY 12
CORRIDOR, WHICH IN TURN WILL BRING WATER & SEWER SERVICES TO
ATHERLEY AREA, PROTECT OUR VALUABLE FARM LAND FROM
DEVELOPMENT, COMPLETE OUR AGGREGATE RESOURCE MAPPING,
AND IMPROVE THE ASTHETICS IN OUR COMMERCIAL HAMLETS OF
ATHERLEY, BRECHIN AND LONGFORD.

AN AGGRESSIVE PROGRAM FOR COUNCIL REQUIRING STRONG POLITICAL WILL
TO TAKE OUR GOVERNMENT TO OUR CONSTITUENTS, PROTECT OUR
ENVIRONMENT AND PLAN FOR THE NEXT QUARTER CENTURY,

BUT LET'S NOT FORGET OUR NEIGHBOURS. JOINT PLANNING, INTEGRATED SERVICES AND SHARED IDEAS MUST BE PART OF OUR FUTURE SERVICE AREAS NEED NOT FOLLOW RIGID POLITICAL BOUNDARIES AS EVERY SERVICE WE PROVIDE HAS AN ULTIMATE AREA TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIES OF SCALE. LOOK AT WHAT MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT HAS DONE WITH PROVINCIAL OFFENCES COURT SINCE ITS DOWNLOADING. TWO SERVICE AREAS FOR THE ENTIRE COUNTY INCLUDING BOTH THE CITIES OF BARRIE AND ORILLIA WITH ALL MUNICIPALITIES INCLUDING OUR MNJIKANING NEIGHBOURS SIGNING ON AND BEING PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS.

BIGGER GOVERNMENT ISN'T BETTER - IMPROVED SERVICE AT A REDUCED COST IS. MY PAST THREE YEARS ON COUNCIL HAS MORE THAN PROVEN THIS POINT, SERVICE LEVELS UP, TAXES DOWN OVER 10%.

AMALGAMATION WILL NOT DELIVER THE BENEFITS SOME PERCEIVE IT WILL BECAUSE WE CURRENTLY DELIVER SERVICES SO EFFECTIVELY. POLITICIANS NEGOTIATING SERVICE LEVELS ON BEHALF OF THEIR CONSTITUENTS' WANTS, WHETHER THE SERVICE AREA IS A SMALL PART OF ONE TOWNSHIP, HALF SIMCOE COUNTY OR EVEN SPILLING OVER TO OUR NEIGHBOURS IN ORILLIA, DURHAM, MUSKOKA OR KAWARTHA LAKES, WILL PROVIDE THE LONG TERM BENEFITS AND THE COSTS SAVING WE ARE ALL SEEKING AS POLITICIANS AND TAXPAYERS.

WE'VE RECENTLY RESTRUCTURED THE COUNTY AND MY OPINION IS THAT IT IS WORKING AND RESPONDING WELL TO THIS EVER CHANGING ENVIRONMENT WE ARE EXPERIENCING. PROVINCIAL OFFENCES COURT, SOCIAL SERVICES, SOCIAL HOUSING, HIGHWAY TRANSFERS AND AMBULANCE SERVICE ARE RECENT EXAMPLES OF HOW WELL OUR RESTRUCTURED MUNICIPALITIES RESPOND TO CHANGE. LET'S NOT HAVE CHANGE JUST FOR THE SAKE OF CHANGE BECAUSE THERE IS A SOCIAL COST INVOLVED - COMMUNITY IDENTITY. LET US KEEP DIALOGING WITH OUR NEIGHBOURING MUNICIPALITIES ON HOW BETTER TO SERVICE OUR RESIDENTS. WE ARE ALL FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS AND OPEN AND MEANINGFUL DIALOGUE ON WHAT EACH OF US DOES BEST CAN ONLY BENEFIT THE OTHER.

AT THIS TIME I WILL APPOINT THE FOLLOWING ELECTED AS COUNCIL LIAISON FOR THESE AREAS OF JURISDICTION:

- 1) ADMINISTRATION/FINANCE AND PERSONNEL SERVICES
- DEPUTY MAYOR DAN MCMILLAN
- 2) TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
- COUNCILLOR MARILYN BROOKS
- 3) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
- COUNCILLOR NEAL SNUTCH
- 4) PROTECTIVE SERVICES
- COUNCILLOR NADIR JAMAL

5) CULTURE AND RECREATION SERVICES

- COUNCILLOR JOHN O'DONNELL

6) ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

- COUNCILLOR BASIL CLARKE

THIS CONCLUDES MY ADDRESS AND I HOPE I HAVE SET A CHALLENGE TO DEVELOP THE FRAME WORK TO DIRECT NOT ONLY THIS COUNCIL BUT FUTURE COUNCILS TO STRIVE TOWARD THE VISION AND DESIRES OF OUR RESIDENTS. FROM MY WIFE ELEANOR AND MYSELF I WISH TO EXTEND TO ALL THOSE PRESENT HERE TODAY, TO MY STAFF AND TO THE RESIDENTS OF THE TOWNSHIP SINCERE BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY AND HEALTHY HOLIDAY SEASON AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

GOD BLESS YOU ALL AND THANK YOU.