

AA/
Windsor, Ontario, December 7, 2011

A meeting of the **Economic Development Standing Committee** is held this day commencing at 4:30 o'clock p.m. in Council Chambers there being present the following members:

Present: Councillor Payne, Acting Chair
Councillor Sleiman
Councillor Valentinis
Councillor Marra

Regrets: Councillor Dilkens

Delegations:
Dr. Alfie Morgan, Chair, Small Business Advisory Panel
Peter Valente, Vice President, Windsor Rubber Processing Ltd.

Also present are the following from Administration:

George Wilkki, City Solicitor and Corporate Leader Economic Development and Public Safety
Thom Hunt, City Planner
Greg Atkinson, Senior Planner – Economic Development
John Calhoun, Heritage Planner
Agatha Armstrong, Deputy City Clerk

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting is called to order at 4:30 o'clock p.m.

2. **DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND THE GENERAL NATURE THEREOF**

None disclosed.

3. **ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES**

Moved by Councillor Valentinis, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,
THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Economic Development Standing Committee held on November 2, 2011 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

4. **REQUESTS FOR DEFERRALS, REFERRALS OR WITHDRAWALS**

None requested.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

6. PRESENTATIONS AND DELEGATIONS

Dr. Alfie Morgan, Report No. 5 of the Small Business Advisory panel meeting held October 18, 2011

Dr. Alfie Morgan appears before the Standing Committee to provide a brief overview of the Windsor Small Business Advisory Panel progress report, outlining the outstanding recommendations that are outlined in Report No. 5 of the Small Business Advisory Panel; Implementation of a Small Business Coordinator; report regarding possible financial incentive programs for small businesses in the hospitality service, and retail sectors; Town Hall meeting - the Panel requesting a \$2,500 budget for the event; the City continue to lower the Small Business tax rates; and the Panel seeking support of the Mayor and members of Council in reaffirming its mission to keep the small business sector as a major job creation/retention engine.

Moved by Councillor Sleiman, seconded by Councillor Valentinis,

THAT the *revised* "Windsor Small Business Advisory Panel Progress Report to City Council" dated October 18, 2011 **BE APPROVED**; and

THAT a "Small Business Coordinator" position **BE IMPLEMENTED** to be the internal champion to assist with the issues for small business owners when dealing with City Hall; and

THAT the City Planner **BE DIRECTED** to prepare a report to City Council presenting possible financial incentive programs for small businesses in the hospitality, service and retail sectors; and

THAT the Small Business Advisory Panel **HOST** a 'town hall' meeting and extend an invitation to the Mayor and Members of Council to attend, and further **THAT** a budget of up to \$2,500 for facility rental and promotion **BE APPROVED**; and

THAT the City continue to lower the Small Business Tax Rates in the Commercial and Small Industrial sectors to compare with the average of like sized communities across the Province of Ontario; and

THAT the Panel **SEEK SUPPORT** of the Mayor and Council in reaffirming its mission to keep the small business sector as a major job creation/retention engine and a major contributor to its tax base. To that extent, the Panel recommends the following:

- That the Panel's Terms of Reference **BE PUBLICIZED** among City staffers so they can consult with the Panel on matters pertaining to small business.
- That the Panel **BE CONSULTED** in the development of a Small Business Panel Website as part of the City's website redesign.

Carried.

Item 1 Application by Windsor Rubber Processing for Financial Incentives under the Economic Revitalization Community Improvement Plan

Peter Valente, Vice President, Windsor Rubber Processing Ltd., appears before the committee and is available for questions.

The salient points of discussion relating to the application by Windsor Rubber Processing for financial incentives are as follows:

- The Economic Revitalization CIP provides financial incentives to encourage new investment in targeted economic sectors
- Windsor Rubber Process has applied for financial incentives under the Business Development Grant Program.
- Windsor Rubber Processing is planning to reuse a vacant building for rubber recycling and manufacturing.
- The value of the proposed work is estimated at \$998,600.00.
- While the business currently has 3 employees, it anticipates that within a year this will climb to approximately 90 jobs.

Moved by Councillor Marra, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,

THAT the request made by Peter Valente (Vice President, Windsor Rubber Processing Ltd.) on behalf of the property owner under the Business Development Grant Program **BE APPROVED** for 100% of the municipal portion of the tax increment for up to ten years pursuant to the City of Windsor Economic Revitalization Community Improvement Plan;

THAT the City staff **BE AUTHORIZED** to account for the vacancy tax rebate in the calculation of the base municipal taxes;

THAT the City Planner **BE AUTHORIZED** to approve any proposed building facade work at 1680 Kildare Road as a condition of the Business Development Grant approval;

THAT staff **BE DIRECTED** to prepare an agreement to implement the Business Development Grant Program in accordance with all applicable policies, requirements, and provisions contained within the Economic Revitalization Community Improvement Plan to the satisfaction of the City Planner as to content, the City Solicitor as to legal form, and the CFO/City Treasurer as to financial implications; and

THAT the CAO and City Clerk **BE AUTHORIZED** to sign the Business Development Grant Agreement.

Carried.

7. COMMITTEE MATTERS

Windsor Heritage Committee – Business Plan and Financial request for 2012 Budget Deliberations

Moved by Councillor Marra, seconded by Councillor Sleiman,

THAT the Business Plan and Financial Request for the 2012 Budget Deliberations for the Windsor Heritage Committee **BE REFERRED** to the 2012 budget deliberations.

Carried.

Report No. 303 of the Windsor Heritage Committee meeting held November 9, 2011

Moved by Councillor Marra, seconded by Councillor Valentinis,
THAT Report No. 303 of the Windsor Heritage Committee meeting held November 9,
2011 **BE ADOPTED** as presented.
Carried.

Minutes of the International Relations Committee meeting held September 29, 2011

Moved by Councillor Marra, seconded by Councillor Valentinis,
THAT the minutes of the International Relations Committee meeting held September 29,
2011 **BE RECEIVED** for information.
Carried.

8. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

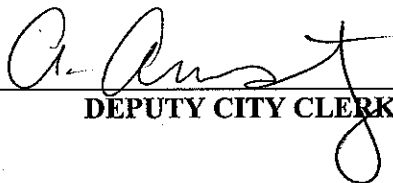
None.

9. **QUESTION PERIOD**

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business the meeting is adjourned at 5:15 o'clock p.m.


CHAIRPERSON


DEPUTY CITY CLERK