

**COUNTY OF BRANT COUNCIL MINUTES**

**SPECIAL MEETING**

Council Chambers, Paris  
Tuesday, January 12, 2009  
7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor Eddy, Councillors Wheat, Schmitt, Haggart, Simons, Powell, Atfield, Chambers, Hodge, Coleman and Gatward.

**Staff:** Urbanski, Compeau, Johnston, Underwood, Bell and Carman.

Mayor Eddy in the Chair.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Moved by – Councillor Coleman  
Seconded by – Councillor Simons

That the Brant County Council agenda and addendum for the January 12, 2009 special meeting be approved as distributed.

. Carried

**DELEGATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS**

**Friends of Paris Culture re: Paris Old Town Hall**

James Binkley, on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Friends of Paris Culture and specifically the Brant Cultural Centre Project, briefly reviewed his presentation to Council on December 2 regarding the status of the Brant Cultural Centre project and requesting support from Council towards the project. He advised that the Brant Cultural Centre is in favour of the Old Town Hall being saved, but is not in a position to purchase the building. The Brant Cultural Centre is willing to look at this facility as an option, but there are many questions that need to be answered before they are prepared to invest in this project. He noted the Brant Cultural Centre has updated its business plan to address a market study done in 2002 that identified a need in the community for a medium-sized performance space, a working artist's studio and gallery and an historical exhibit space. Mr. Binkley suggested that the renovation/restoration of the Old Town Hall would require a multiple partnership among arts and culture groups in the County and a great deal of volunteer work. He insisted that whoever purchases the building needs to undertake due diligence from a business perspective on all aspects of the project.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Report prepared by Professor Malcolm Thurlby, York University on Paris Old Town Hall – **received as information**. Mayor Eddy noted that Professor Thurlby had accompanied the Council on a tour of the building prior to the Council meeting.

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Moved by – Councillor Chambers  
Seconded by – Councillor Schmitt

That Council go In Camera in the Lower Meeting Room to discuss a property negotiations issue.

. Carried

**In Camera at 7:15 p.m. in the Lower Meeting Room.**

This portion of the meeting is recorded in the In Camera – Confidential Brant County Council minutes dated January 12, 2009.

**The meeting resumed in Open Session in the Council Chambers at 7:55 p.m.**, on motion of Councillors Hodge and Schmitt.

**PARIS OLD TOWN HALL**

Moved by – Councillor Chambers  
Seconded by – Councillor Coleman

That County staff be requested to expeditiously investigate further the options necessary to preserve the Paris Old Town Hall.

. Carried

**OTHER BUSINESS**

1. Invitation from the Brant County Federation of Agriculture to their Annual MP/MPP Luncheon to be held Friday, January 23 at Jades in Paris. Councillors Powell, Coleman and Atfield indicated that they would be attending.

**NEXT MEETING**

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m. to meet again on **Tuesday, January 20, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, Paris.**

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Mayor

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Date Minutes Approved

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Clerk