



**SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING, MARCH 27, 2006
IN COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE
TO DISCUSS A SECURITY OF PROPERTY MATTER:
ATLAS STEELS PROPERTY UPDATE
AND
IN OPEN SESSION
TO CONSIDER A REPORT AND A BY-LAW REGARDING
THE 2006 CITY OF WELLAND CAPITAL AND OPERATING BUDGETS**

**CIVIC SQUARE, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
60 EAST MAIN STREET**

Council met in Committee-of-the-Whole closed to the public at 6:15 p.m. and in open session at 7:00 p.m. on the above date.

His Worship Mayor Damian Goulbourne in the Chair.

Members Present: Councillors D. Alexander, D. Beaudoin, M. Belcastro, P. Chiocchio, D. Fortier, P. Grenier, M. A. Grimaldi, J. Larouche, S. O'Dell, and B. Sharpe.

Members of the Staff and Others Present:

Acting City Manager C. Stirtzinger
Acting City Clerk B. Gallaccio
Chief, Fire & Emergency Services P. Olah (7:00 p.m.)
General Manager Engineering, Public Works & Transportation Services D. Shantz
General Manager Financial & Corporate Services/Treasurer B. Silvestri
General Manager of Human Resources R. Beaumont
General Manager of Parks and Recreation B. LaPlante
Administrative Assistant/Deputy Clerk B. Gallaccio
General Manager of Planning and Development Services D. Thorpe (7:00 p.m.)
Manager, Economic Development & Tourism D. Degazio
Acting Mgr. Budgets & Fin. Rprt./Dep. Treas. K. Douglas (7:00 p.m.)

Accounting Coordinator S. Smith (7:00 p.m.)

06-25 Moved by Grenier and Sharpe that Council meet in Committee-of-the-Whole, closed to the public at 6:15 p.m. to consider:

- a) the security of the property of the municipality.

CARRIED

06-25 Moved by Belcastro and Larouche that the Committee-of-the-Whole arise from its closed meeting at 6:25 p.m. without report.

CARRIED

STATUTORY PUBLIC HEARING PURSUANT TO THE MUNICIPAL ACT

06-4 To consider the 2006 Capital and Operating Budgets for the City of Welland.

The following people were present to speak on the proposed Budgets.

- No one spoke.

06-4 Moved by Alexander and Sharpe that Council receive the Budget Review Committee minutes of January 30th (second revision) and February 20th, 2006.

CARRIED

06-4 Moved by Alexander and Larouche that

1. That Council approve the 2006 Operating and Capital Budgets, Schedules 'A' and 'B' respectively, attached to Report FIN-06-06 resulting in a 4.49% tax levy increase from \$22,737,388 in 2005 to \$23,758,451 in 2006. The 1.37% assessment growth component reduces the tax rate impact to 3.12%.
2. That Council approve the following measures in 2006 to mitigate future budgetary and cash flow issues associated with the possible non-payment of outstanding taxes on the Atlas property:
 - a) Allocate \$300,000 of the current \$609,000 general operating surplus as a provision for future tax write-off.
 - b) Allocate the \$200,000 in the contingency reserve fund, created in the 2006 budget by funds received from the Ontario Municipal Partnership Fund, as provision for future tax write-offs.
 - c) Allocate the proceeds of the sale of City owned properties in 2006, estimated at \$400,000 to a provision for future tax write-off reserve. Properties currently designated as parks or zoned as open spaces be excluded.
 - d) Postpone the commencement of the following projects to minimize temporary borrowings while awaiting tax payments:

	Project Cost
i) Fitch Street Roadway PCD to S. Pelham	\$2,400,000
ii) Southworth Watermain	\$239,000
iii) Summitt Area Watermain	\$466,000

CARRIED

(Councillors Fortier, O'Dell, Beaudoin and Grimaldi asked to be recorded as opposed to this Resolution).

BY-LAWS**BY-LAW PRESENTED FOR FIRST READING:**

1. Moved by Alexander and Grenier that leave now be given to introduce the following proposed By-law entitled:

06-4

BYL 2006 – 33

A By-law to adopt the 2006 Capital and Operating Budget.

And that the same be now read a first time.

CARRIED**BY-LAWS PRESENTED FOR SECOND AND THIRD READING:**

2. Moved by Alexander and Grenier that the By-law listed in the foregoing motion for first reading and as reproduced in this Evening's Council Agenda, having been read a first time and considered, be now read a second and third time and do pass, and the Mayor and Clerk do sign and seal the same.

CARRIED

Council adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

These Minutes approved and adopted by Motion of Council this 4th day of April, 2006.

MAYOR**ACTING CLERK**