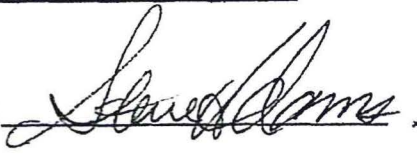
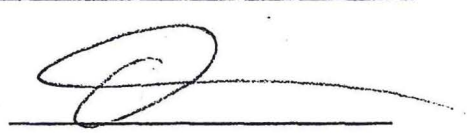


The Corporation of the Municipality of Brockton

No. 17-17- 205

Session: June 26, 2016

Moved By: 

Seconded By: 

12.1 Support Common Economic Development Initiative

Whereas: The Council of the Municipality of Brockton believes the local economy is relatively stable with long term commitments to the nuclear industry, increasing world demand for Agriculture production, as well as land and existing infrastructure able to support a larger tax base.

The Municipality of Brockton is experiencing the following challenges:

- Aging population on fixed income.
- Loss of former large employers.
- Developers prefer to build close to the lake providing limited options for people who would like to move to an interior municipality.
- Children being bussed for up to two hours per day from rural homes leading to more people living in urban areas although many would prefer to be close to agriculture related employment.
- Reduced number of homes and families in rural areas leading to a smaller labour pool for agriculture.
- Small urban centres and significant agriculture production in outlying areas.
- Difficulty for existing business owners to find buyers to take over business when they retire..
- High employment rate (many people leave to find work) therefore existing and potential new businesses have difficulty finding suitable employees.
- Maintaining and improving existing services while keeping a low tax rate.

Whereas Brockton may have more of the above in common with the Municipalities of South Bruce and Arran Elderslie than they do with shoreline communities,

And whereas rural municipalities generally have limited financial and human resources to pursue and develop economic opportunities, and,

Whereas the Council of the Municipality of Brockton recognizes the importance of broadening the tax base, and believes there may be unique solutions to rural challenges if similar municipalities work together in areas of common interest,

Therefore be it resolved that the Municipality of Brockton reach out to the Municipalities of South Bruce and Arran Elderslie to determine the level of interest in starting a dialogue to confirm our common economic development challenges and opportunities.

And further that the following draft agenda be recommended to the Municipalities of South Bruce and Arran Elderslie and that the Mayors, Deputy Mayors and a representative of Bruce County Economic Development department convene a meeting to review these issues and make recommendations to their respective Councils.

Draft Agenda Items

A) Agreement / Disagreement on Common challenges:

1. Aging population on fixed income.
2. Loss of large employers.
3. Developers prefer to build close to the lake.
4. Children being bussed for up to two hours per day.
5. Reduced number of homes and families in rural areas leads to a smaller labour pool for agriculture and existing businesses.
6. Difficult for existing business owners to find buyers when they retire.
7. High employment rate therefore existing and potential new business have difficulty finding suitable employees.
8. Challenge to maintain and improve existing services while keeping a low tax rate.

B) Review of Current Economic Development activity within each Municipality:

Arran Elderslie
 Brockton
 South Bruce

C) Identification of Common Regional Economic Development Activity:

1. OMAFRA
2. Regional Tourism 7
3. Bruce County
4. Western Ontario Wardens Caucus – SWIFT
5. Bruce Power Initiative

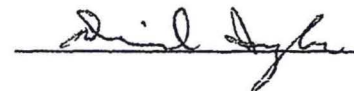
D) Discussion of Possible Co-operative Activity (in no particular order):

- a. Schools
- b. Agriculture
- c. Business Parks
- d. Residential Development
- e. Immigration
- f. Other?

Actions going forward?

Member of Council	Yea	Nay
Adams, Steve		
Bell, Bill		
Gieruszak, Dan		
Inglis, David		
Leifso, Dean		
Oberle, Chris		
Peabody, Chris		
Totals		

Carried



Defeated
