

CITY COUNCIL #36-79

December 18, 1979.

A Special Meeting of Council was held this evening when the following members were present - His Worship Mayor G. Parisien, Aldermen D. Armstrong, G. Cameron, F. Guindon, L. Keen, R. Lalonde, A. Lebano, A. LeBlanc, B. Lynch, J. Pescod, and G. Samson.

M.N.R. Unauthorized Occupation Program

Mr. R. Morin, District Manager of the Ministry of Natural Resources, and Mr. B. McCue, Lands Co-ordinator for the Ministry, were in attendance to review with Council the Ministry's policy in connection with unauthorized occupations of the Crown bed along the St. Lawrence River. Also in attendance were several owners of boathouses at Gray's Creek and owners of cottages on Pilon Island.

Mr. McCue indicated that the Ministry was requesting that Council approve in principle the removal of all unauthorized occupations within the City limits. It was mentioned that out of approximately 127 boathouses, 100 would be deemed as unauthorized structures. Mr. McCue also indicated that his department is willing to assist, if necessary, in the formulation of an area zoning by-law that would include minimum standards for these structures.

At this point Alderman Cameron requested to be excused from the meeting.

After all members of Council had been provided an opportunity to question Ministry representatives it was moved by Aldermen Samson and Lynch that Rule 10 be invoked to allow one or two spokesmen from the group in attendance to address Council and Ministry personnel. Carried.

Mr. Mac Lafave, boathouse owner, stated he was pleased that a meeting was finally being held to review the situation. He indicated he was giving the boathouse owners word that no more boathouses would be built until such time as a policy is established. He further indicated that his group would be prepared to pay \$50 per year per slip and fix up their structures. He added that all they were asking for was an opportunity to improve the area concerned.

Mr. M. Menard, cottage owner on Pilon Island and boathouse owner at Gray's Creek, indicated that the Ministry itself contributed to the decrease in the wild life population in the area by dredging the mouth of a creek. He asked Ministry representatives if they had noticed that where there are boathouses being used along the St. Lawrence River there are no weeds growing. He would not accept that boathouses were a cause of wild life deterioration. He added that having been an occupant on the Island for approximately 40 years, unless suitable alternative facilities were made available to the cottage owners, their cottages would have absolutely no value. He also indicated that were those who enjoy fishing and hunting required to make use of Gray's Creek facilities only, they would not have been able to make use of the river for duck hunting since Gray's Creek has been frozen for several weeks.

Mr. Roth, Chairman of the Raisin Region Conservation Authority, stated that comments made that the Authority wished all boathouses removed are not correct statements. He indicated that the Authority is waiting for a policy from the City in connection with shoreline cleanup and that the Authority is prepared to assist in any way it can. He added that he personally would not support any development along the shoreline unless boathouse owners were consulted prior to any activity taking place.

Following input from all those concerned, it was moved by Aldermen Keen and Lalonde that a further meeting be held with the Ministry and boathouse owners and that in the meantime a moratorium be placed on the construction of any future boathouses on unauthorized land facing the river within the City limits.

Carried.

R. D. Daine  
Clerk

Gerald Cousner  
Mayor

COUNCIL ACTION *Jan 14/80*   
 COMMUNICATIONS (REG)   
 COMMUNICATIONS (CONSENT)   
 COMMUNICATIONS (CLOSED)   
 APPROVED   
 RECEIVED   
 FILED   
 DEFER   
 COMMENTS \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 CLERK *R. D. Daine*