



VILLAGE OF STURGEON POINT, ONTARIO
INCORPORATED 1899

R.R. 3, Fensel Falls, Ontario K0M 1N0

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October 19, 1999

Mr. Eric Cosens,
Senior Planner,
County of Victoria,
26 Francis Street,
Lindsay, On
K9V 5R8

Dear Mr. Cosens,

First of all, thank you very much for coming to talk to the Council at the open meeting on October 8th, 1999. The options that the Village has to try to ensure that, in the event of enforced amalgamation with other municipalities, the intrinsic character of the Village would be preserved are very important to us.

As I am sure you are fully aware, the Village of Sturgeon Point is unique and its attraction to residents and outsiders/tourists stems precisely from that quality. It is the smallest incorporated municipality in Ontario, and this year is celebrating 100 years of incorporation. During that time the municipality has been run without debt by a volunteer, duly elected, council, always paying its way to the province as required. Many of the ratepayers are descended from the first settlers in the Village and collective historical memory is very strong. Those who have come later have chosen to live in the Village, whether as seasonal or permanent residents, precisely because of its characteristics and ambience.

As you stated, to try to go the route of designating the whole Village as a heritage area, so as to preserve it as it is today is not really feasible. Council has discussed this option and has formed the same opinion. We understand that the process is long and would be inhibiting on development by inhabitants. Moreover it would not necessarily be in the best interests of the Village, as a viable, living organism, to be so completely circumscribed with regard to structural change. That being said, we do not wish to leave the Village open to radical changes at the whim of a distant, disinterested governing body.

We would therefore, like to discuss further the option of having the Village made a special area within the Planning Act, as you described as another option, as this seems a way that we can try to ensure that change is controlled in a compatible manner.

The areas which we initially see as the most important to delineate:

1. **Roads** We wish to maintain the travelled surface of each of our roads and streets as currently established. We have no desire to see any of the roads/streets widened to their surveyed width nor the addition of curbs.

The present surfaced width of the streets is as follows:

Lake Avenue	12 ft reduced to 8:1 beyond Irene Avenue to Henry Street where it is One Way only.
First Street	10 ft
Second Street	10 ft
Third Street	10 ft
Fourth Street	10 ft
Fifth Street	10 ft
Sixth Street	10 ft

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Irene Avenue	14 ft
Forest Road	12 ft
Henry Street	9 ft
Golf Links Road	20 ft
Gray Road	9 ft
Graham Lane	Private Road

We also wish to ensure that the surfacing maintenance be continued as at present with the hot rolled asphalt.

2. **Non-commercial zoning** Council took into account your comments in this direction, but the firm consensus was that this was essential to maintaining the ambience. Once permission is given to any new commercial enterprise, then the way would be open for increased commercial enterprises. We understand that at present, we have two commercial areas, the Pro Shop at the Golf Club and the boat docks that are rented out by Council to interested villagers. We will certainly move to see how we can remove these two items from the commercial list.
3. **Lighting** We also wish to maintain the historical character of our streetlighting, both as to the design of the lighting fixtures and the ambience of the lighting itself. The goal should be to provide adequate lighting without being intrusive. It would be inappropriate, for example, to replace any of the Village lights with glaring mercury or sodium vapor lamps; only fixtures similar, or complimentary to the existing lights should be used.
4. **Committee of Adjustment** The Village, with the assistance of the County Planning Department, established its own Zoning By-law in 1978. Our Building Permit By-law, with constant amendments, has been designed to regulate any new construction, including renovations and/or additions to existing structures. There are, however, very few building lots available now, and the majority of the structures are 'grandfathered' as non-conforming. This calls for a great deal of individual understanding and discussion as changes are considered, and there is definitely a case for allowing the Village to appoint its own Committee of Adjustment in the event of the Council (which currently acts in that capacity) being terminated by amalgamation. There is also the question as to whether it is possible to have some terminology which would ensure that future building or renovation would be compatible with the general ambience.
5. **Trees** The giant pines and oak trees which are predominant within the Village, must be recognized and preserved where possible for future generations. These trees have provided, over the years, much of the beauty and uniqueness of the Village of Sturgeon Point.
6. **County Official Plan** We are most anxious to have a Secondary Plan to the Official Plan put into motion to protect the Village of Sturgeon Point and hopefully guarantee that the unique and restrictive aspects of Sturgeon Point will be maintained into the future.

There may well be other considerations that we should be including that you could advise us about and we would like to meet with you at your earliest convenience to begin to put this concept into place and discuss all the items in detail. The following dates are good for myself and some members of council, and so if any of these dates are good for you, please let Marilyn know and she will notify the rest of us.

Friday afternoon	October 22 nd
Monday am or pm	October 25 th
Friday am or pm	October 29 th

Yours truly,

Doc Savage, Recvc