

# COUNCIL

FEBRUARY 25, 2003

#03-03

The Parrsboro Town Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Doug Robinson presiding.

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning

Councillor Lloyd Smith

Councillor Lyle Yorke

A.D. Brown, Town Clerk

Kevin Yorke, Secretary

**REGRETS:** Councillor Lois Smith

## 1. WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Robinson welcomed all those in attendance and called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

## 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning that the agenda be approved as circulated. Motion carried.

## 3. PRESENTATION BY RUTH ALLEN FOR L.A. ANIMAL SHELTER

On behalf of the Board of Directors and members of the L.A. Cumberland County Animal Shelter, Ruth Allen thanked the Town Council for the opportunity to speak and present the shelter's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2002 and funding request for the coming fiscal year. In her presentation Mrs Allen noted the benefits of the animal shelter to all municipal units in Cumberland County, the expense of operating the facility and the time and commitment of a small group of volunteers such as President Jean Henley, Cora Berry and Diane Laituri who were among several of the group in the Council Chambers this evening. She also noted the cooperative working relationship between Parrsboro's canine control officer Carl

**Skidmore and the shelter. Mrs. Allen advised that through the generosity of a few very devoted board members the Shelter has been able to survive financially, however, it looks like that money will probably not be available this coming year and there will be a deficit of approximately \$30,000. Therefore, with the assistance of the County of Cumberland and through the cooperation of CAPSO a funding formula for the five municipal units was developed that would provide 50 percent of the total yearly budget of \$58,787 based on the number of dogs processed during the previous year in each unit. Mrs. Allen advised that last year the Town of Parrsboro represented 11% of the total number of dogs taken in and based on that percentage the amount being requested is \$3,233 ; the County of Cumberland is being asked to grant 31.7% or \$9,317; the Town of Amherst 28.0% or \$8,230; the Town of Springhill 18.3% or \$5,379; and the Town of Oxford 11% or \$3,233. At the conclusion of her presentation, Mrs. Allen thanked Town Council for their continued support and submitted a sheet with the contribution being requested.**

**Following a question and answer period Mayor Robinson thanked Mrs. Allen for her presentation and expressed Council's appreciation for what the L.A. Animal Shelter does. He indicated that the request would be referred to the 2003/2004 budget and Town Council would try to do its best to support the shelter with the financial resources available.**

#### **4. RCMP REPORT**

**Cst. Colin Morton presented the following report for the past month: 8 Traffic Violations; 2 Damage to Property; 1 Theft of Utility (oil); 2 Suspicious Vehicle complaints; 3 Family Disputes; 1 Break and Enter into a cottage; 1 complaint under the Fire Arms Act; 1 Break and Enter into a residence; 3 False Alarms; and 1 Assault with a weapon.**

**Cst. Morton also noted four PCR projects over the past month including Safe Grad Hockey, DARE drug awareness program, Winter Carnival at the school, and the Block Parent Program.**

#### **5. BYLAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S REPORT**

**Carl Skidmore reported he had received 11 complaints and disposed of one dog. Mr. Skidmore noted that because of the cold weather, housing for dogs has become a concern and that he had received several complaints about dogs being left out in the cold for which he had issued warnings to the owners who complied and either took the animals inside the house or provided them with shelter.**

#### **6. FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**

**Fire Chief Arnold Wood presented the following report for February 2003:**

#### **EMERGENCY CALLS**

**1 Chimney**

**1 Structure**

## **TRAINING**

**February 20<sup>th</sup> - Water supply, hose lays for new members.**

## **UPCOMING TRAINING**

**March 5<sup>th</sup> - Positive Pressure Ventilation**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> - Firefighters will be participating in driver training. Gerald Kane of Halifax fire training division will be the instructor. This is a continuation of our Truck Driver/Pump Operator program.**

**April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> - Fire Behaviour and Ventilation in Oxford (CCFA)**

**May 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup> - S.C.B.A. in Oxford (CCFA)**

### **7. APPROVAL OF CHEQUE SHEET**

**Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning that the Cheque Sheet in the amount of \$81,057.98 be approved as circulated. Motion carried.**

### **8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Mayor Robinson asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - #03-01. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as presented.**

**The Mayor asked if there were any errors or omissions noted in the minutes of a Special Council meeting held on February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2003 - #03-02. Hearing none he declared the minutes approved as presented.**

### **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**(9.1) Finance - Report given by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning:**

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

**(a) Mount Saint Vincent University - Correspondence from Katherine Side with the Department of Women's Studies thanked the Mayor and Council for approving their research in Parrsboro for the study on population loss and health status in rural Nova Scotia. The process involves focus group discussions with various stakeholders in Parrsboro such as the Board of Trade and Youth Town Council who have already been contacted. A meeting with the Board of Trade has been set up for February 24<sup>th</sup> and Ms. Side indicated that she would like to set up a similar meeting with Town Council at a mutually agreeable time.**

**(b) Tax Collection Procedure - The Clerk recommended a minor revision to item 7. of the Tax Collection Procedure which specifies that the final 15 day notice is sent out in July. He noted that it has been the practice to send the final letter in June and in order to be consistent the wording should be changed to indicate that the final 15 day notice is sent out in June.**

**The Committee agreed that the wording should be changed as recommended.**

**(c) Department of Transportation & Public Works - Correspondence from the DOT indicated that the department is developing the Annual Temporary Traffic Count Program for 2003 and that although the program will be concentrated on the Western District they will be able to do 100 Special counts in each of the four districts on an as requested basis. The fee schedule and application form were enclosed with a deadline date of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.**

**In the discussion it was noted that the Fundy Geological Museum keeps detailed information on traffic volume counts and it was recommended that the Curator be consulted for his thoughts on whether or not it would be advantageous to participate in this program this year.**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Finance Report and recommendations contained therein be accepted.**

**On the question,**

**Mayor Robinson noted that the meeting on February 24<sup>th</sup> did take place with the two professors from Mount Saint Vincent University and to his understanding they felt it was a productive meeting. He indicated that the two individuals who will be doing the research in Parrsboro were introduced at this meeting.**

**The Mayor also advised that he had spoken to Ken Adams at the Museum regarding the Department of Transportation and Public Works traffic count and that Mr. Adams did not indicate an interest in having a study done specifically for that purpose. In fact, Mr. Adams has**

not received the results from the last study that was done, therefore, it would be worthwhile to get that information together for him so that he has something to work with.

As there was no further discussion the motion was voted on and carried.

**(9.2) Public Works - Report given by Councillor Lloyd Smith:**

## **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE REPORT**

**FEBRUARY 2003**

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**(a) Superintendent's Report - John Henwood reports the following activity in the Public Works Department:**

- snow removal, sanding and salting of streets and sidewalks
- water test for pressure and flow on Upper Main Street for a domestic sprinkler system
- a couple of frozen water services were thawed out
- fuel wood delivered which will be cut and split for use at the Town Shed and Town Hall
- regular maintenance of vehicles and equipment
- the new 2003 International truck was been delivered and has been in use for a couple of weeks

**(b) Cost of Snow Removal - A concern was raised at the committee meeting as to whether the recent winter weather conditions have been putting a strain on the Town's snow removal budget. The Clerk advised that the weather has been having an impact and that snow removal will no doubt be overbudget by year end. He indicated, however, that he did not expect that the budget overrun would be that significant.**

**Moved by Councillor Lloyd Smith, seconded by Councillor Lyle Yorke that the Public Works report be accepted. Motion carried.**

**(9.3) Planning, Development and Housing - Report given by Councillor Lyle Yorke:**

## **PLANNING, DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT**

**(a) Unsightly Premises - The Committee reviewed a letter of complaint submitted to the Town regarding an unsightly premises.**

**As per the policy and procedures established for Dangerous or Unsightly Premises complaints the letter has been forwarded to Building Inspector/Development Officer Pat Boyce for his investigation and recommendation as to whether action is or is not deemed necessary.**

**Moved by Councillor Lyle Yorke, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Planning, Development and Housing report and recommendations contained therein be accepted. Motion carried.**

**(9.4) Recreation - Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning advised that she and Councillor Lloyd Smith had met earlier this evening to discuss the volunteer awards. She indicated that there will be posters, advertising in the papers and on cable TV seeking nominations for the following categories:**

**•Representative Volunteer of the Year•Youth Volunteer of the Year•Sobeys Family Volunteer Award**

**Anyone wishing to submit nominations can pick up a nomination form at the Town Hall which must be completed and returned to the Town Hall by Thursday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, and these will in turn be submitted to Halifax.**

**Moved by Deputy Mayor Gleneida Canning, seconded by Councillor Lloyd Smith that the Volunteer Award program proceed as outlined above.**

**For clarification, Mayor Robinson noted the understanding that only one name from each category would be submitted to Halifax for the Provincial Volunteer Awards. Deputy Mayor Canning indicated that his understanding was correct.**

**As there was no further discussion the motion was voted on and carried.**

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE**

**(10.1) Youth Science Month - Correspondence from the Nova Scotia Youth Experience in Science Foundation advised that across Canada, some 500,000 students are getting ready to take part in science fairs in March. Students in Parrsboro area are preparing to compete in local and regional science fairs, and hope to be among the elite young scientists who will take part in the national**

**championships, the Canada-Wide Science Fair, to be held in Calgary this May.**

**(10.2) Nova Scotia Coalition Against No-Fault Insurance - This letter was not read aloud, however, the Clerk advised it was from a concerned group taking issue with the insurance industry and its bid to have the Province pass legislation to set up a no-fault insurance program. Basically the organization is saying that this will not reduce premiums, it will cost more money, and benefits will be lost through the inability to make claims through insurance. The organization is asking anyone with similar concerns to contact them and have their name added to a list for the presentation that will be made to the Provincial Government.**

## **11. ADJOURNMENT**

**Upon a motion by Councillor Lloyd Smith the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.**